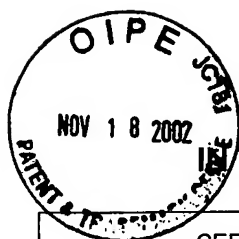


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PATENT 12.4-02



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that on November 14, 2002, which is the date I am signing this certificate, I am depositing this correspondence the United States Postal Service, first class mail, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Jessica Brown
Jessica Brown

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, § 1.97 and § 1.98, Applicant brings the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 to the examiner's attention. 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. These references may be material to examination of the above-identified application. Please do not construe the filing of this information disclosure statement as a representation that applicant has made a search (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), or as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. We enclose copies of the cited documents.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted:

- ☒ 1. Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d), or within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, and therefore, Applicant believes no fee is required;
- ☐ 2. After the period specified in paragraph (1) hereinabove of this section, but is being filed before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 CFR 1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of the following:

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- ☐ (a) A statement that either:
- (i) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;

OR

- (ii) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;

OR

- ☐ (b) The fee of \$180 for filing of an Information Disclosure Statement as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p).

- ☐ 3. After the period specified in paragraph (2) of this section, but is filed on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by both:

- ☐ (a) A statement that either:
- (i) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;

OR

- (ii) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;

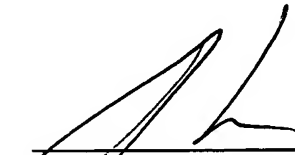
- ☐ (b) The fee of \$180.00 for filing of an Information Disclosure Statement as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

Applicant would appreciate the Examiner initialing and signing a copy of Form PTO-1449, transmitted herewith, indicating that the information has been considered and made of record herein.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, Applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the

cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **D -**
posit Account No. 501946 referencing order number 064754-0012.

November 14, 2002



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Attorney for Applicant

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Substitute for form 1494/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/057,436
				Filing Date	January 25, 2002
				First Named Inventor	STOYANOV et al.
				Art Unit	2164
				Examiner Name	Unknown
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	064754-0012

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number -Kind Code ² (if known)	Issue Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
	1	US-4,742,457	05-03-1988	LEON et al.
	2	US-5,239,462	08-24-1993	JONES et al.
	3	US-5,611,052	03-11-1997	DYKSTRA et al.
	4	US-5,774,883	06-30-1998	ANDERSON et al.
	5	US-5,873,782	02-23-1999	HALL
	6	US-5,878,403	03-02-1999	DEFRANCESCO et al.
	7	US-5,930,776	07-27-1999	DYKSTRA et al.
	8	US-5,995,947	11-30-1999	FRASER et al.
	9	US-6,026,382	02-15-2000	KALTHOFF
	10	US-6,064,987	05-16-2000	WALKER et al.
	11	US-6,078,905	06-20-2000	PICH-LEWINTER
	12	US-6,252,586	06-26-2001	FREEMAN et al.
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OTHER PRIOR ART – NONPATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.